



DEPARTMENT OF LAW
OFFICE OF THE
Attorney General
STATE CAPITOL
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Bob Corbin
~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~
ATTORNEY GENERAL

January 12, 1979

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ARIZONA ATTORNEY GENERAL

Honorable Rod J. McMullin
Arizona State Senator
Senate Wing, Capitol Complex
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Re: I79-13 (R79-003)

Dear Senator McMullin:

In your letter of January 3, 1979, you sought our interpretation of Arizona Revised Statutes § 41-2353B, which reads:

B. . . . The chairman of the [joint legislative] oversight committee shall serve for the term of each legislature. The chairmanship of the oversight committee shall alternate between the chairman of the senate delegation and the chairman of the house of representatives delegation beginning with the chairman of the senate delegation.

Specifically, you asked whether chairmen of the joint legislative oversight committee serve one-year or two-year terms. The chairmanship does not alternate between Senate members and House members with each regular session, but instead alternates with each Legislature. The "term of each legislature" is two years, and thus the chairmanship of the oversight committee remains constant during the full term of each Legislature.

Other joint legislative committees have chairmanships that alternate on an annual basis, but this practice occurs either because of a specific statutory mandate¹, or

1. See A.R.S. § 41-1271B (budget committee) and A.R.S. § 41-1321B (tax committee).

Senator Rod J. McMullin
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because the statutes are silent and by tradition the chairmanship
"switches houses" with each regular session.²

Very truly yours,



BOB CORBIN
Attorney General

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et seq. 2. E.g., the legislative council. A.R.S. §§ 41-1301